

Three New General Practice Liaisons

Meet the Team

Dr Alison James, General Practice Liaison and General Practitioner at Bethlehem Medical Centre



My name is Dr Alison James. I have worked with the great team at Bethlehem Medical Centre as a GP for the past 11 years. I am originally from England having qualified from St Mary's Medical School in London and completed my GP Registrar training in Cornwall, UK. I made the wise decision to move to New Zealand in 1998 and have never looked back! I am really enthusiastic about my new role in GP Liaison and will be responsible for Women's, Child and Family Services and Mental Health Services. I hope to facilitate productive communication between primary and secondary care and look forward to seeking out opportunities to innovate and improve!

Outside work I live on an avocado orchard with my partner, Richard and our blended family of four kids. I love running and am excited to be attempting my first marathon soon. I also enjoy singing and help co-ordinate the fantastic Vocal Chords - which I would encourage other tuneful folk to join!

Dr Jethro LeRoy, General Practice Liaison and General Practitioner at Waitaha Health Centre



Ko Mauao te Maunga
Ko Tauranga te Moana
Ko Takitimu te Waka
Ko Ngati Ranginui te Iwi
Ko Ngati Hangarau te Hapu
Ko Jethro taku ingoa

My name is Jethro LeRoy and I am a GP working at Waitaha Health Centre in Te Puke, the town where I grew up. I am one of the new GP liaisons and my area will be surgical and anaesthetic services. Look forward to meeting everyone associated with the liaison role and the new challenges it will bring.

I have a lovely wife along with 3 boys aged 15, 13 and 10 years old. I graduated from Otago School of Medicine in 2004, worked as a house surgeon in Tauranga Hospital before moving on to General Practice training through to fellowship in 2010. I enjoy all sports, play golden oldies rugby, kayak and Jet Ski fishing and have and continue to coach all levels of my boys' sports.

Dr Chris Tofield, General Practice Liaison and General Practitioner at Cameron Medical Clinic



Hi, I'm Chris and I am one of the three new GP Liaisons/Clinical Advisors. I'll be covering the areas of Medicine and ED.

Having graduated in London far too many years ago, I left the NHS and moved to NZ with my Kiwi fiancé in 2001. Since then we have had three kids and are now firmly established in Tauranga. I love to run, cycle, travel the world, and regularly (and unsuccessfully) attempt to win against my wife at board games.

For the last four years I have been working at Cameron Medical Clinic in Greerton, having previously gained GP experience in various rural, urban and Maori practices around the middle North Island. I also have experience in clinical research, online research analysis and consultancy (you might have heard of Research Review), and have managed to publish a research paper or two.

It is fascinating to read about new ideas or changes that have been implemented in other healthcare systems around the world. I believe we can learn a lot by looking around us and seeing what has and has not worked out for others in the health arena, with the ultimate goal of making limited financial ends meet with great healthcare.

I'm excited to be part of the continual improvement process at the primary care/secondary care interface of our DHB, and am looking forward to meeting you all over the next few months!